

ceased, and he slept without disturbance and without dread in the recumbent posture.

"On the 22nd, I again made his mouth sore. He then returned home, and has never had any return of his former distressing symptoms. While these sheets are going through the press, (October, 1837,) I have again had an opportunity of seeing him. He is in perfectly good health, after having undergone the exciting and arduous exertions attendant on taking an active part in two of the most violently contested elections in the kingdom."

The other case was treated in a similar manner.

The following conclusions are deduced by Dr. Corrigan from the review of the premises:

"1st. That, in some cases of what are called angina pectoris, the paroxysms of dyspnœa, anxiety, mental distress, &c., constituting a fit of angina pectoris, and often supposed to be merely nervous, are really the symptoms of aortitis, or inflammation of the mouth of the aorta.

"2nd. That the treatment, in such cases, is the adoption of local bleeding, counter-irritation, and the exhibition of mercury, which experience has taught us are the means best calculated to prevent the effusion or cause the absorption of lymph.

"3d. The pathology of the disease, which these cases have enabled us to trace, encourages us also to put into requisition our treatment, and to persevere in it after even a considerable lapse of time has passed by, in instances too where, without this knowledge, we should have looked upon the case in despair, from the belief that irremediable organic disease had been established."

These observations are highly important in a practical point of view, and deserve attention. We believe that many cases of affections of the heart and large vessels are lost, from the false conviction of their hopelessness entertained by practitioners. On the whole, we think Dr. Corrigan has made out his case; although the co-existence of disease of the heart, along with that of the aorta, in some of his cases, renders the conclusion, that the aortitis was the cause of the angina, not quite logical.

21. *Dysmenorrhœa relieved by Carbonic Acid Gas.*—Every physician is aware that some females suffer most severe pains in the uterine region, for one or more days before each appearance, and not unfrequently also during the continuance of the catamenial flow. Young girls residing in large towns are perhaps more subject to this distress than any other females;—their systems being often unusually irritable, and this excess of irritability being very generally associated with constitutional weakness. It is a common remark that such girls menstruate earlier in life than such as are robust, and those who reside in the country. Under these circumstances, marriage will often aggravate the dysmenorrhœa;—the generative organs being apt to be so highly excited by coition, that the accustomed monthly discharge, intended, no doubt by Nature as a means of local relief, is either stopped altogether, or is only very sparing and uncertain. The treatment of such cases is often extremely difficult. The employment of the ordinary emmenagogues is very generally pernicious; and even the application of leeches to the feet, or to the vulva, will sometimes only aggravate the sufferings. Professor Mojon, of Geneva, assures us that he has used injections of carbonic acid gas per vaginam, with the most soothing effects. Like Rasori and Borda, he considers this gas as a powerfully depressing or contra-stimulant agent; and it was by reasoning from its known effects, as such, that he was led to try its effects as a local application to the womb in painful dysmenorrhœa. The gas is easily obtained by pouring diluted sulphuric acid on some pieces of chalk into a flask, (which ought to be provided with a double orifice,) like an inhaling apparatus;—a curved flexible tube is fitted on to one of these, and when the gas is freely disengaged, the extremity of the tube is to be introduced into the vagina, and the fumigation is to be continued for five or six minutes. This remedy may be used two or three times in the course of the day.

M. Mojon assures us that he has employed this mode of treatment in a great number of cases, and very generally with decided advantage. Not only was the pain almost always relieved for the time, but also the menstrual flow, in future,

became more regular in its return, and more copious in its quantity.—*Med. Chirurg. Rev. from Bull. Gen. de Therapeutique.*

22. *Rheumatism cured by Vapour Bath of Camphor Fumes.*—A labouring man, 22 years of age, had long suffered from attacks of flying rheumatism; but, as the pains were not severe, he neglected to use any remedial means.

Exposure to wet and cold brought on a smart attack of the disease in its acute form; and for this he had to undergo a vigorous antiphlogistic treatment by general and local bleedings, blistering, &c. The active symptoms were speedily subdued; but the patient continued to experience dull gnawing pains, increased by motion, sometimes in the loins, and at other times in the thighs and legs. Various means were used without much effect; and the physician was therefore induced to give a trial to the ingenious proposal of employing a vapour bath of camphor fumes, as recommended by M. Dupasquier in the *Revue Médicale* for 1826. The patient was made to sit on an open-seated stool, under which was placed a chafing-dish. A plate of iron was then put on this dish, and, the patient being enveloped in a blanket, a small spoonful of powdered camphor was thrown, every five minutes, on the heated plate until about half an ounce had been used. The vapour speedily induced a copious perspiration, and this was promoted by putting the patient into a warm bed, and giving him copious diluent drinks. The first, and even the second, fumigation did not produce any very decided relief; but by the fourth day (for the treatment was repeated daily) the pains were greatly abated, and the freedom of motion much increased. Considerable debility followed the employment of this medication; but by appropriate means the strength of the patient was speedily restored, and he remained free from his rheumatic pains.—*Journal des Connaissances Med. Chirurg.*

23. *On a particular kind of swelling of the Tonsils, Uvula, and soft Palate.* By Dr. ROSCH.—In obstructions of the portal system, in deficient activity of the mucous membrane of the intestinal canal, and particularly in diseased states depending on sluggishness of the intestinal secretions, the tonsils, uvula, and velum swell from time to time, still remaining soft: they appear to be traversed by small blue vessels, and to have acquired a bluish dark-red colour; the swallowing is somewhat impeded, and the voice not unfrequently acquires a hoarse tone. This condition may be apparent one day, and lost on the following; but it frequently continues many weeks, and disappears only on recovery. In general it keeps pace with the improvement or deterioration of the general complaint, so that, e. g., on the re-establishment of the action of the bowels by means of laxatives, it disappears. The author considers such a condition of the throat always as a symptom of obstruction, and also as a symptom of chronic gastritis, in cases where the patients are already very much debilitated, where there is an evident predominance of the venous system, and where there is a tendency of the blood, however small, to be evacuated by the intestinal canal. An analogous state of parts is seen in the blue discoloration of the lower lip in hydrothorax, hemorrhoids, &c., and which is indicative of obstruction.—*B. and F. Med. Rev. from Jahrbücher, &c., No. 2. Heft. 2. 1837.*

24. *On Antimonial Suppositories as a mean of restoring the Hemorrhoidal Flux.* By Dr. A. TROUSSEAU.—The physicians of past ages, have, perhaps, too much exaggerated the importance of hemorrhoids in the scale of pathological phenomena, while those of our own time are fallen into the contrary extreme.

It cannot be denied that the suppression of the hemorrhoidal flux, when habitual, may be productive of general disorders among men, almost as serious as the suppression of the menses in women. Moreover, it is as generally admitted, that with certain persons who have, not only regularly, but at indeterminate periods, a draining or hemorrhoidal flux, the existence of this pathological condition is attended with a state of general good health; although it may remain for a long time uncertain and variable, provided the hemorrhoids do not manifest themselves as soon as usual. Observation shows, also, that persons who have had hemorrhoids for a long time, suffer generally, if this flux entirely ceases. And it often happens that there is a call for its restoration.

Many means have been advised to effect this indication. The warm local